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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/639,052

08/11/2003

Seiichi Katano

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29989

7590

11/27/2006

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EXAMINER

HAILU, TADESSE

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2173

DATE MAILED: 11/27/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/639,052

Applicant(s)

KATANO, SEIICHI

Examiner

Tadesse Hailu

Art Unit

2173

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 August 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-80 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 8, 11-15, 19-24, 28, 31-35, 39-44, 48, 51-55, 59-64, 68, 71-75, 79 and 80 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5-7, 9, 10, 16-18, 25-27, 29, 30, 36-38, 45-47, 49, 50, 56-58, 65-67, 69, 70 and 76-78 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11 August 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>20030807</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to the patent application number 10/639,052 filed on August 11, 2003.
2. The Information Disclosure Statements with references submitted on August 11, 2003, April 11, 2005 and November 7, 2005 are considered and entered into the file.
3. The pending claims 1-80 are examined herein as follows.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-4, 8, 11-15, 19-24, 28, 31-35, 39-44, 48, 51-55, 59-64, 68, 71-75, 79 and 80 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over lwase et al (2002/0097262) in view of Horiyama et al (2003/0195917).

With regard to claims 1, 21, 41, and 61:

lwase discloses a method for editing (customizing) a user screen (user interface), comprising transmitting user interface specification data to one or more multifunction peripherals, wherein user interface specification data defines a desired display and operation behavior for the one or more user interfaces, and wherein each of the one or more user interfaces is displayed on one of one or more multifunction peripherals (pars. 11-15)

Iwase, however, does not clearly describe, "maintaining scheduling data that defines a start time that indicates a time to update each of the one or more user interfaces to reflect the user interface specification data." Horiyama on the other hand, describes managing peripheral (MFP) over a wide range or in two or more bases. Horiyama also describes maintaining scheduling data that include start time that indicates a time to update each of the one or more user interfaces (Figs. 7-13, and 16, par. 126). At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the timing update of the interface and other data as described in Horiyama with Iwase's. The suggestion /motivation for doing so would have been to provide a timely based modification or updating of operational console will be performed, so that user will be informed the when there is a new update of user interface. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Iwase with Horiyama to obtain the invention as specified in claim 1.

With regard to claims 2, 13, 22, 33, 42, 53, 62 and 73:

Iwase in view of Horiyama describes that the user interface specification data is transmitted from a wireless device (Iwase, Fig. Fig. 1).

With regard to claims 3, 14, 23, 34, 43, 54, 63 and 74:

Iwase in view of Horiyama describes that the user interface specification data is transmitted from an origin multifunction peripheral (Iwase, Figs. 1-6, pars. 11-15).

With regard to claims 4, 24, 44, and 64:

Iwase in view of Horiyama describes that the scheduling data is generated in response to input received from a user (Horiyama, par. 117, Fig. 16).

With regard to claims 8, 28, 48 and 68:

Iwase in view of Horiyama describes that the user interface specification data is transmitted to the one or more multifunction peripherals contemporaneously with the occurrence of the start time (Iwase, Figs. 1-6).

With regard to claims 11, 19, 31, 39, 51, 59, 71 and 79:

Iwase in view of Horiyama describes that the transmitting use limit data that defines a number of uses to apply the user interface specification data to the one or more user interfaces (Iwase, pars. 13-15, and 18).

With regard to claims 15, 35, 55, and 75:

Iwase in view of Horiyama describes that the use limit data is generated at a wireless device prior to transmission in response to input received from a user (pars. 11-15).

With regard to claims 20, 40, 60, and 80:

Iwase in view of Horiyama describes that the transmitting scheduling data that defines a start time that indicates a time to update each of the one or more user interfaces to reflect the user interface specification data (Horiyama, Figs. 7-11 and 16, par. 117).

With regard to claims 12, 32, 52 and 72:

The remaining independent claims, while not necessary identical in scope, contain limitations similar to independent claim 1, 21, 41 and 61, respectively, and therefore are rejected under the same rationale.

*Allowable Subject Matter*

5. Claims 5-7, 9-10, 16-18, 25-27, 29-30, 36-38, 45-47, 49-50, 56-58, 65-67, 69-70, and 76-78 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

CONCLUSION

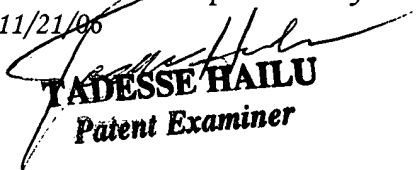
6. Examiner has pointed out particular references contained in the prior arts of record in the body of this action for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings in the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and Figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant, in preparing the response, to consider fully the entire references as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior arts or disclosed by the examiner.

7. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the patent application information retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published application may be obtained from either Private –PAIR or Public-PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private-PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, please see [pair-direct.uspto.gov](http://pair-direct.uspto.gov) web site. Should you have questions regarding access to the PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Art Unit: 2173

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Tadesse Hailu, whose telephone number is (571) 272-4051. The Examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 10:30 – 7:00 ET. If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Kincaid, Kristine, can be reached at (571) 272-4063 Art Unit 2173 and 2174.

*Examiner Tadesse Hailu*  
*Art Unit 2173 – Operator Interface*  
*11/21/06*

  
**TADESSE HAILU**  
**Patent Examiner**